

REMARKS

Claims 1-66, all the claims pending in the application, stand rejected on informalities.

Claims 1, 3, 9, 23, 25, 31, 45, 47, and 53 are amended herein. The Applicants have amended the claims based on the Examiner's comments in the Office Action of August 23, 2004 and based on the telephonic interview between the Examiner and the undersigned attorney on November 1, 2004. The Examiner has indicated that the agreed-upon language discussed during the telephonic interview shall place all of the claims in condition for immediate allowance.

I. The 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph, Rejection

Claims 1-66 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In response, Applicants have amended the claims consistent with the Examiner's helpful comments. As indicated above, Applicants have added the phrase "text summarization produced by" in the preamble of independent claims 1, 23, and 45 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Additionally, Applicants have amended the claim language from "derived" to --calculated--, from "plus" to --weighted by--, and from "frequency" to --frequency of occurrence-- in independent claims 1, 23 and 45, and the related dependent claims 3, 9, 25, 31, 47, and 53, respectively.

The amendments to the claims are consistent with the specification, which indicates that in the formula $tf_i * idf(w_i) = tf_i * \log(N/df_i)$, tf_i is the number of times the word w_i occurred in the whole collection, that is, tf_i is the frequency of occurrence and df_i is the number of documents containing the word. Please note, the symbol, *, is a multiplication symbol, and thus the words --weighted by-- are used instead of "plus." (See Specification, Page 18, last paragraph). In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw these

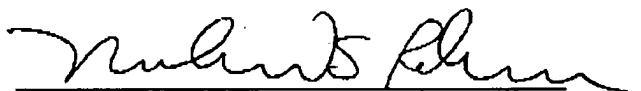
rejections.

II. Formal Matters and Conclusion

With respect to the informalities to the claims, the claims have been amended, above, to overcome these informalities. In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-66, all the claims presently pending in the application, are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other charges deemed necessary. Please charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayments to Attorney's Deposit Account Number 09-0441.

Respectfully submitted,



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